REVISED AMENDMENT PRACTICE HIGHLIGHTS Technical Support Staff

Requirements of the revised amendment practice of the final rule for all amendments filed on or after <u>July 30, 2003</u>:

- 1. Each amendment section must begin on a separate sheet
- 2. A <u>separate "clean" version</u> of a currently amended paragraph or claim is NO LONGER REQUIRED (except for a <u>substitute</u> specification see No. 5 below)
- 3. If the amendment adds, changes, or deletes any claim, a <u>listing of all</u> <u>claims</u> that are, or were, in the application, must be provided as follows:
 - The claims must be listed in ascending numerical order
 - The text of all pending claims including withdrawn claims must be presented; no text for "canceled" or "not entered" claims
 - A <u>status identifier</u> must be presented in parentheses after the claim number for each claim; only the following identifiers are permitted: (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), and (not entered)
 - All "currently amended" claims must have <u>markings</u> to show changes; the only markings permitted are underlining for added matter, strikethrough and double brackets [[]] (for five or fewer characters) for deleted matter
 - Grouping of consecutive "canceled" or "not entered" claims permitted (e.g., claims 2-8 (canceled))
- 4. Upon receipt of a complete listing of all claims, LIEs should cancel all previous versions of claims in the application by drawing a line through the previous versions of claims
- 5. Amendments to the specification by <u>marked-up replacement</u> paragraphs or sections only no clean replacement paragraph or section is required; <u>NO</u> replacement <u>sheets</u> permitted
 - Note, however, that for <u>substitute</u> specifications, rule 1.125 continues to require both a clean and marked-up copy
- 6. <u>Drawing changes</u> without markings clean replacement drawing sheets only annotated sheet(s) showing changes may be submitted
 - Explanation separately provided

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